

Guidance for Grading, Promotion and Rank During School Closure



AHISD Curriculum Department

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For the 4th Nine Weeks grades will be recorded on the final report card as Credit or No Credit.

Credit will be denoted as 100 and No Credit as 69.

4th Nine Weeks 2020 grades will be included in final averages, High School GPA, and class rank calculations.

4th Nine Weeks 2020 grades will be used to award course credit and in promotion and graduation decisions.

In AHISD our core purpose for assessment and grading is to aid student learning. We make our decisions about grading based on what is best for our local school district and our unique community. During this time of school closure, our teachers are still teaching, and our students are still learning.

The impact on COVID19 on families and students is significant. We cannot predict what would have happened this semester, so we are providing students with a best-case scenario to ensure students are not disadvantaged because of circumstances beyond their control.

Due to disruptions to school schedules, instructional transitions to Continuous Learning, as well as differences in home resources, modifications are needed to our existing grading procedures and practices. The aim of these guidelines is to ensure that our grades remain as accurate as possible, sensitive to current learning environments, and supportive for student wellness.

Additional Information about Grading

I. PK- 2 Checklists

Student checklists will be completed by teachers with available information. If there is not new or additional information for the 4th Nine Weeks, teachers should mark the skill with the same notation as the 3rd Nine Weeks.

II. Elementary Considerations

Elementary Specialists will not be graded

Work habits and social skills graded will continue to be scored as Unsatisfactory, Needs Improvement, Satisfactory, or Excellent

III. 3rd Nine Weeks Grading

Two out of forty-five instructional days from the 3rd Nine Weeks were not face-to-face due to school closure. Students have until April 17th to resolve incomplete work from 3rd Nine Weeks with individual teachers. In general, this is limited to assignments assigned within the last 2 weeks of the 3rd Nine Weeks. Students should follow regular procedures for make-up/reassessment.

IV. 4th Nine Weeks Grading

The focus remains on providing students with feedback on learning essential skills. Due to disruptions of scheduling and instruction as well as differences in home resources, 4th Nine Weeks grades will be graded as Credit or No Credit. To provide students with the benefit of the doubt and assume a best-case scenario, a Credit grade is denoted as a 100 and a No Credit grade is denoted as a 69.

Rationale for 100/69 as Credit/Fail

- Pass/Fail with letter designations of P/F only does not provide all students with the opportunity to raise their overall semester average. Credit/No Credit with numerical representations can help students improve semester averages through their effort and engagement.
- Students enrolled in Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment courses at AHHS need numerical grades for college transcripts.
- Students planning to continue their education at the university-level would be at a disadvantage, as colleges often view a designation of Pass as a "C."
- The NCAA Clearinghouse treats a grade of Pass as the lowest possible passing grade. This could put our students who are interested in collegiate athletics at a disadvantage compared to students coming from districts that recorded numerical grades.

Credit: Students have adequate mastery of TEKS to be successful next year.

- Students participate in course discussions and activities (synchronously and/or asynchronously).
- Assignments are completed and of an acceptable quality.
- Credit grade for 4th Nine Weeks is denoted as a 100.

EXAMPLE: 3rd Nine Weeks Grade	4th Nine Weeks Grade	Semester Average
80	100	90

No Credit: Students do not have mastery of 4th Nine Weeks TEKS may not be prepared for next year.

- Students demonstrate minimal participation in course discussions and activities (synchronously and/or asynchronously).
- Minimal course assignments are completed.
- Grade for 4th Nine Weeks is a 69.

EXAMPLE: 3rd Nine Weeks Grade	4th Nine Weeks Grade	Semester Average
80	69	75





Incomplete: To be used for extreme and extenuating circumstances and must be approved by the Academic Dean after documented parent/teacher communication. Students will need to repeat the content through summer school, credit recovery, or Credit by Exam.

V. Focus on Essentials

There will be fewer formally assessed assignments. (minimum of five for the 4th Nine Weeks per course/subject in grades 3-12)

VI. Continuity

We will continue to provide students with direct feedback and that includes both narrative feedback and numerical grades. Some assignments will continue to receive grades to provide students with feedback on their progress. Graded work and narrative feedback will be considered in final Credit or No Credit determinations.

VII. Progress Reports

Teachers will send written communication via email to all parents of students who have Failing grades on April 22nd. Additionally, we will personally check in with all students who are not on track to earn Credit the 4th Nine Weeks to see how we can support both academics and overall well-being. Additional support and grace will be provided to students so that no students are penalized for circumstances beyond their control. Students on track to earn Credit the 4th Nine Weeks will not receive a progress report.

VIII. Final Exams

There will not be final exams during the 4th Nine Weeks.

IX. Report Cards

Texas Education Code, §28.022(a)(2) requires school districts, at least once every 12 weeks, to give written notice to a parent of a student's performance. Report cards and Checklists will be viewable and/or sent to parents beginning on May 22.

X. High School Class Rank

Districts and open-enrollment charter schools must identify junior and senior students in the top 25% of their class for the purposes of eligibility for automatic college admission to a Texas institution of higher education.

For all High School Students: First semester averages remain the same.

For all High School Students: Multiplier calculations remain the same.

For all High School Students: Second semester average will be the average of 3rd Nine Weeks final grade and 4th Nine Weeks Credit/No Credit grade.

XI. Promotion

Educators and counselors should focus on gathering sufficient information to determine levels of proficiency for students to ensure they are prepared to be academically successful moving into the next school year. STAAR and EOC requirements for promotion are suspended for the 2019-2020 school year.

XII. Graduation and Awarding of High School Credit

If a student is unable to demonstrate proficiency in remaining 4th Nine Weeks content, districts have the authority to award proportionate credit if a student successfully completed the first half of the course. Successful completion of half of a course would not constitute demonstrated proficiency for the entire course. Students may earn credit for the second semester by an average of 3rd and 4th Nine Weeks grades or by taking a Credit by Exam assessment.

Texas Tech University (TTU) and University of Texas (UT) will be offering online proctored CBEs for a fee.

Contact Information

For additional questions about grading, reporting, and promotion, please contact the academic dean.

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